

CITY OF DALLAS
Urban Renewal Advisory Committee
Dallas City Hall
187 SE Court Street, Dallas, Oregon 97338
Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2013 - 5:30 p.m.

1 MINUTES

2 Members Present: Chair David Shein, Jim Fairchild, Nancy Adams, LaVonne Wilson, Randy Hunter,

Chelsea Pope, Rich Rohde, Joe Koubek and Rich Long.

4 Absent: Craig Pope and Ken Jacroux.

5 Staff: Community Development Director Jason Locke and Planner John Swanson.

#### 6 **CALL TO ORDER**

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7 Chair David Shein called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

#### 8 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

9 The minutes of the August 6, 2013, meeting were presented and approved with minor corrections.

# 10 PUBLIC COMMENTS

11 There were none.

#### 12 OLD BUSINESS

- 13 Community Development Director Jason Locke updated the committee on the progress of the
- streetscape project underway on the 800 and 900 blocks of Main Street. We have been dealing with
- 15 weather and have been dealing with small, unforeseen circumstances as they appear. Chair David Shein
- asked about the areas around building entrances and if plans are changing to accommodate anomalies.
- 17 Mr. Lock replied that we have discovered some dry rot and bad foundations on a few buildings
- 18 (Majestic, Event Center) and that the problems were being dealt with appropriately.
- 19 Rich Rohde asked that the committee be added to the email list to get the construction updates that
- 20 have been being sent to business and property owners as the work advances. Bob Brixius asked if
- 21 communication is established with the few upstairs residents on the 800 block. John Swanson said that
- they are in the loop on the construction schedule. Joe Koubek asked if any trouble has come up. Mr.
- 23 Locke said nothing significant. Chlesea Pope acknowledged that the smaller street trees removed have
- been relocated and not wasted. She also said that in conversation with Brown Construction that they
- 25 enjoyed working in Dallas.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

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- 27 Community Development Director Jason Locke informed the committee that no one to date has taken
- advantage of the façade grants available as part of the streetscape project. \$40,000 budgeted for grants
- is going unused. Inquiries from business and property owners on Main Street, but outside the 800 / 900
- 30 block project area, have shown interest. Mr. Locke made a two-part staff proposal as follows: 1.)
- 31 Expand grant eligibility to the other three blocks of Main Street; and 2.) Use budgeted money to buy
- 32 signs for businesses on Main Street. We hire the sign company and we buy the signs. All the business

- has to do is say yes. He further proposed that we would start by buying and installing a new hanging
- 34 shingle style sign for the Dallas Library to start the new sign initiative. He said we would have the
- 35 library sign ready soon. Mr. Locke stated that he believes that if we buy and install 10 to 12 new signs
- downtown, it will have an instant visual impact and will stimulate more building improvement activity.
- 37 Chair David Shein asked if we should remove the matching component to the façade grant and simply
- 38 give money to eligible applicants. Jason thought we should wait on that and see if we can get some
- more interest through his two proposals. Bob Brixius mentioned that he was waiting for spring to apply
- and Jim Fairchild stated that momentum on building improvements will build.
- 41 Chelsea Pope made a motion to recommend both staff recommendations (expand façade program area
- 42 and buy signs for existing businesses) be advanced to the Urban Renewal Agency for approval
- 43 consideration. Rich Rohde seconded and the committee unanimously approved the motion.

### 44 MEMBER COMMENTS

- 45 Rich Rohde commented that there is nothing about the Urban Renewal Advisory Committee on the city
- 46 website. There's content about the project, but nothing on the work of the committee. Jason Locke
- 47 reported that we are getting feedback from the Facebook page set up to cover the project. Chair David
- 48 Shein also remarked that Urban Renewal was "buried" in the content of the city website. Mr. Rohde
- asked if we shouldn't set up a Facebook page specifically for the work of the URDAC. Mr. Locke said he
- 50 would investigate the idea. Joe Koubek warned that maintaining a social media presence is a "full time"
- 51 proposition and if there isn't time to maintain it, then don't do it. Mr. Rohde said that the page could be
- 52 read-only and that he may be willing to do the work to set it up and maintain it.

# 53 **STAFF COMMENTS**

- 54 Community Development Director Jason Locke presented the design for the banners to be hung on the
- new street light poles. They are smaller in size (18" x 30") to be in proportion with the shorter poles.
- The banners are not very expensive and will provide visual impact.

## 57 **OTHER BUSINESS**

- 58 None
- 59 The meeting adjourned from City Hall at 6:30 P.M.